

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 10540 291144Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2965
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 10540

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RO, SP
SUBJECT: VISIT TO SPAIN OF ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: BUCHAREST 9160

1. THE VISIT TO SPAIN DECEMBER 20-22 OF ROMANIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER GEORGE MACOVESCU WENT WELL ENOUGH,
AN EMBASSY OFFICER WAS TOLD BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR FOR EASTERN EUROPE (LOPEZ
JACOISTE), ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT REALLY AS CORDIAL
AS THAT OF YUGOSLAVIAN FONMIN MINIC (MADRID 10159,
NOTAL). MACOVESCU HIMSELF, SAID LOPEZ, WAS POLISHED,
BRIGHT AND CORDIAL, IN CONTRAST TO THE DELEGATION
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PAGE 02 MADRID 10540 291144Z

ACCOMPANYING HIM, WHICH LOPEZ CHARACTERIZED REPEATEDLY
AS "ROUGH".

2. CONTINUING THE COMPARISON WITH THE YUGOSLAVS, LOPEZ
NOTED THAT THE LATTER HAD TRIED TO DRAG THE SPANIARDS
INTO A DECLARATION OF NON-ALIGNMENT, BUT DESISTED
"SPORTINGLY" IN THE FACE OF THE SPANISH AFFIRMATION OF

A WESTERN VOCATION. THE ROMANIANS, IN CONTRAST, HAD PUSHED HARD TO FORCE THE PACE ON BILATERAL TIES, SEEKING COMMITMENTS AND SCHEDULES ON AGREEMENTS AND MEETINGS WHICH THE SPANIARDS WERE UNWILLING TO MEET AND TRYING TO MAXIMIZE THE NOTION OF A SHARED CULTURAL HERITAGE. THE ROMANIANS HAD ALSO SOUGHT INCLUSION IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF LANGUAGE ON THE WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE, BUT FINALLY RELENTED. FOR THEIR PART, LOPEZ CONTINUED, THE SPANIARDS (AND SPECIFICALLY FONMIN OREJA) HAD PUSHED FOR INCLUSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, BUT HAD BEEN UNABLE TO TAKE THE ROMANIANS ALL THE WAY.

3. THE MACOVESCU VISIT HAD INDEED COME UP SUDDENLY, LOPEZ ACKNOWLEDGED, AND RECIPROCAL VISIT INVITATIONS HAD BEEN EXTENDED AND ACCEPTED BETWEEN CEAUSESCU AND SUAREZ. NO DATES HAD BEEN SET FOR ANY SUCH VISIT, HOWEVER, LOPEZ STATED FIRMLY, AND WHILE IT WAS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE AND EVEN LIKELY THAT OREJA WOULD SOME TIME IN 1978 RETURN THE VISITS MADE TO SPAIN RECENTLY BY EE FOREIGN MINISTERS, NOTHING MORE WAS TO BE EXPECTED.

4. EXPANDING, LOPEZ OBSERVED THAT SPAIN WAS INDEED SEEKING NORMALIZATION OF ITS RELATIONS WITH THE EE COUNTRIES, BUT IT WAS ALSO ON GUARD AGAINST WHAT HE CALLED (IN THE SPECIFIC CONTEXT OF A POSSIBLE CEAUSESCU CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 10540 291144Z

VISIT) "EUPHORIA". IN THIS REGARD HE CONSIDERED CULTURAL AGREEMENTS HELPFUL AS A MEANS OF MONITORING AND CONTROLLING EE CULTURAL EFFORTS WITHIN SPAIN. ATTRIBUTING THE SUDDEN MACOVESCU VISIT TO A ROMANIAN DETERMINATION NOT TO GET LEFT BEHIND IN THE EE EFFORT TO EXPAND RELATIONS WITH SPAIN, LOPEZ NOTED THAT THE BULGARIAN, YUGOSLAV, AND ROMANIAN FONMINS HAD VISITED SPAIN WITHIN SOMETHING LIKE THREE WEEKS, AND THAT WHILE REASONABLE NORMALIZATION WAS DESIRABLE, SPAIN HAD TO "PUT ON THE BRAKES" TO AVOID BEING OVERWHELMED BY A PROSPECTIVE EE DIPLOMATIC ONSLAUGHT.

5. LOPEZ CONSIDERED SUCH AN ONSLAUGHT CLEARLY RELATED TO EE, OR RATHER (HE CORRECTED HIMSELF) SOVIET CONCERN OVER SPAIN'S POSSIBLE ENTRY INTO NATO. THAT SPECIFIC TOPIC, HOWEVER, HAD SCARCELY BEEN TREATED DURING THE MACOVESCU VISIT (UNLESS, HE ADDED, AS WAS ENTIRELY LIKELY, THE TWO MINISTERS DISCUSSED IT DURING THEIR PRIVATE MEETING). IN ANY CASE, SAID LOPEZ, THE GOS FIRMLY CUTS OFF EE APPROACHES ON THE NATO QUESTION, ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT IS FOR SPAIN TO DECIDE WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTRUSION. EATON

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